

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina

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DATE DISTR. 10 February 1948

SUBJECT Argentine Reaction to Labor Unrest

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Increasing strikes and growing unrest in the ranks of labor in Argentina have caused considerable concern to President Peron and his advisers. In an effort to solve the serious labor problem the President is said to have taken the following steps:
 - a. He has ordered Comandante Solvayra Casares of the Casa Rosada secret police to conduct an investigation of the causes of this labor unrest and of the recent strikes. Solvayra Casares has been instructed to employ vigorous measures in dealing with the labor element.*
 - b. He is sending three Federal Police officials to Spain to study the methods used by Spanish police in handling labor trouble. The three officials are said to be Inspector Mayor Nicolas Moreno, Comisario Ismael Gelsi, and Sub-inspector Helvio D. Quirolo.
 - c. He has a group of Spanish lawyers drafting new labor laws which he intends to put into effect sometime this year.
2. The President is reported to have authorized salary increases for all Army officers beginning 1 January 1948. He has ordered that the raises be kept secret. It is not known if the reported raises extend to enlisted men.
3. [REDACTED] the present wave of labor strikes as an effort on the part of labor leaders to impress the President with labor's strength and potential influence in the approaching (March) congressional elections.

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Comment: This is partially confirmed by the recent outbursts of the Communist daily La Hora against the tactics of Solvayra Casares.

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